Statement of Liz Suriano

My name is Liz and I’m here speaking for my friend, Lorry, who hasn’t had a voice since May 15, 1982, her last day on earth. I can’t believe it’s been 35 years since Thomas Kokoraleis brutally stole her innocent life at the age of 21.

Since that time, I’ve stood with Lorry’s family offering my support through every stage of this tragic ordeal, through the search when she was missing, the finding of her body 5 months later, the court proceedings, the trials, and tears, all with the hope of getting justice for Lorry.

Now, I feel the State is telling us that justice has been served, Thomas Kokoraleis has served his time, and may soon be let free. Well it doesn’t seem like justice to me.

I know the Du Page County State’s Attorney’s Office has been very supportive and have done everything they could. And I want to thank them for that. I’m sure, even today, that if there was any way to keep this man locked up and off the streets, in order to protect the public, they would do even more.

I’m not a lawyer and I don’t know what can be done to keep Lorry’s murderer off the streets. All I know is that the man who took Lorry away from me, and everyone else who loved her, could soon be living a few blocks away, and this scares the Hell out of all of us.

I think Gloria Allred understands the pain that this serial killer has put us through, pain that hasn’t diminished over 35 years, and anxiety that increases each day that we get closer to the release date of her killer. Maybe Gloria can help us share our fondest memories of Lorry and someday keep serial killers like Thomas Kokoraleis behind bars forever.

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